

Planet Earth and Beyond...

Vocabulary:

Biome: an area classified according to the species that live in that location.

Continent: any of the world's main continuous expanses of land.

Equator: an imaginary line drawn around the middle of the earth an equal distance from the North and South Poles.

Fauna: the animals living in a particular area.

Flora: the plants living in a particular area.

Hemisphere: a half of the earth usually divided into the northern and southern halves by the equator.

Latitude: measure the distance north or south of the equator.

Longitude: measures distance east or west of the prime meridian.

Prime Meridian: the line of longitude, corresponding to zero degrees.

Tectonic Plate: broken pieces made of the Earth's crust.

Time Zone: a geographic region within which the same standard time is used.

Topography: the physical appearance of the natural features of an area of land, especially the shape of its surface.

Key Knowledge:

The earth is made up of 4 layers (Crust, Mantle, Outer Core, Inner Core).

Earth is split into a Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere by the Equator. These hemispheres are divided into time zones using lines of longitude and latitude.

There are different biomes around the world where the climate, landscape, animals and plants are similar. These are: rainforests, deserts savannah, woodlands, grasslands and tundra.

The world is made up of 7 continents which are: Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Africa, Antarctica and Australasia.

A rainforest is structured in 4 layers: emergent canopy, understory and forest floor. Each layer has unique characteristics based on differing levels of water, sunlight and air circulation.

There are different types of mountains including: Fold, Fault Block and Dome mountains.

Volcanoes are a type of mountain that caves downwards to a pool of molten rock. These can be different types, namely: Cinder Cone Volcanoes, Composite Volcanoes, Shield Volcanoes and Lava Dome.

Earthquakes are a build up of strain energy in the Earth's crust, caused by tectonic plates rubbing together along fault lines.

